AP US History

Chapter 23 Questions

1. In what ways was WWI different from previous wars?

WWI was different in the way the battles went and the number of nations fighting. Usually, there is a war, but only between two main sides, the Revolutionary War-the two sides were the colonists and the British. In WWI, however, there was much more sides than that. It may have begun as a regular one to one war (Austro-Hungarian v. Serbia), but more nations have joined the war, such as Germany, Russia, France, Great Britain, etc. Typically in previous wars, there were massive numbers of infantry in lines where they would try to decimate each other from there. In WWI, doing this would be pure suicide; the modern warfare technology had changed their strategies. With accurate and deadly guns, they could only use trenches to try and kill the other, when one show themselves, and then they would attack. Germany had used the forces of submarines and attacked battleships and other water-based war craft.

1. How did the U.S. government organize the war mobilization effort and build public support for the war?

The US prepared itself by raising funds and supplies, public support came when people wanted social unity. The US government had raised 32 billion dollars for the war. They had achieved the money by first selling bonds, called “Liberty Bonds”(mobilization+public support) second the taxes of rich business people and normal people had raised nearly 10 billion dollars. Wilson had created a Council of National Defense (mobilization), where they would try to organize the economy to meet war needs, however this organization failed. The War Industries Board(mobilization)had appeared with the duty of coordinating government purchases; this group like the one above was not too efficient. Examples of public support for the war was women joining local Red Crosses, children raising funds in their schools, churches included prayers for the president and the troops, etc. The Committee on Public Information(public support) was established and they had heavily supported the war effort, they put up posters and spread their influence of joining the war. The government had helped them by creating acts against any peace makers, with the Espionage Act and later the Sedition Act (Acts are public support; the Sedition Act was an example of limiting freedom during war). The Selective Service Act (mobilization) had helped bring in troops for WWI; was like a drafting act.

1. What were the American objectives in WWI? Were they met? What overall effect on WWI did the America have?

The American objectives were to create a new world order and to ensure that they still have their trading with Great Britain and France. The goals were met, in the victory of the Allied forces and the treaty of Versailles had created a new world order. The overall effect of WWI was a mostly positive effect, since industries were booming and they had lost little soldiers. It created internal conflict within America and it lead to intolerance of immigrants and the downfall of progressivism.

1. Summarize Wilson’s 14 Points and the terms of the Treaty of Versailles. How successful was Wilson with his agenda?

Points:

1. Open covenants of peace, openly arrived at.
2. Absolute freedom of navigation upon the seas, outside territorial waters, alike in peace and in war, except as the seas may be closed.
3. The removal of all economic barriers, and establishment of equality of trade.
4. Guarantees that national armaments will be reduced.
5. Adjustment of colonial claims, that in determining all such questions of sovereignty, the interests of the people concerned must have equal weight with the claims of the government whose title is to be determined.
6. Russian territory should be evacuated, and Russia welcomed into the society of free nations.
7. Belgium should be evacuated and restored.
8. All French territory should be freed and the invaded portions restored.
9. The frontiers of Italy should be readjusted along clearly recognizable lines of nationality.
10. The peoples of Austria-Hungary should have the freest opportunity to independent development.
11. Romania, Serbia, and Montenegro should be evacuated and restored, Serbia should have free and secure access to the sea, and the relations of the several Balkan states to each other should be determined by friendly counsel, and political and economic independence and territorial integrity of the several Balkan states should be internationally guaranteed.
12. The Turkish portion of the Ottoman Empire should have a secure sovereignty, but the other nationalities which are under Turkish rule should have an undoubted security of life and an opportunity of independent development, and the Dardanelles should be permanently opened as passage to the ships and commerce of all nations.
13. An independent Polish state should be erected including the territories inhabited by Polish populations, which should have free access to the sea.
14. The League of Nations should be formed.

Source: <http://www.wikipedia.org> The treaty of Versailles was basically a combination of what the sides had to do and the points in Wilson’s ideas (see above). Wilson was somewhat successful; he managed to include some of his points in the treaty of Versailles.

1. Describe the early 20th century turmoil within America concerning African-Americans.

Even though African Americans had joined the war, whites still generally disliked them, and preferred their own over them. The AA (African Americans) believed that their participation during the war would help them gain new rights but it was usually the opposite. In the South, there was an increase in lynchings. In the north, black factory workers were laid off due to the returning of white veterans. Riots had broken out, such as the ones in Chicago, after a black teenager had died; black people went into white communities to retaliate. White people went into black communities and shot, stabbed, and beating passerby. They both had lost homes and their property. Marcus Garvey, a black Jamaican, had created Black Nationalism to try and gain power. It included at first to create chains of black-owned stores and later asking them to return to Africa to create a new society there.